(iii) Eco-friendly underground mining of limestone in Himachal Pradesh;

(iv) Disposal of flyash in underground and open cast mines to reduce environmental impact of flyash;

(v) Numerical modelling of the mechanical behaviour of rock excavation in mines, tunnels and underground caverns; and

(vi) Underground space technology for civic utilities in large cities.

[English]

Illegal Trade of Tiger Body Parts

*536. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT :
SHRI CHHATAR SINGH DARBAR :

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is persistent clandestine trade of the body parts of Tiger and other wild animals in the country despite the various measures taken by the Government to check the same;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore stating the deficienceis identified by the Government in the measures taken so far to check the said trade;

(c) the estimated trade in each State since the beginning of 1996 as compared to the corresponding period for the last three years;

(d) the areas identified where such illegal trade is being continued unabated, State-wise; and

(e) the manner in whcih the Goverment propose to strengthen the measures to curb this illegal trade?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) and (b) It is a fact that despite the various measures taken by the Government, clandestine trade of the body parts of the Tiger and other wild animals have not been fully checked. The reasons attributed to this are:

(i) Increased demand of traditional Chinese medicines in foreign countries;

(ii) Porus international border; and

(iii) Availability of Tigers and other wild animals in the fragmented habitats outside protected areas.

(c) It is difficult to give an estimate of illegal trade. However, number of tiger skins seized and offence cases related to other wild animals as detected and reported during 1993 to 1996 by various Government agencies are given in Statement-I, II and III.

(d) Maximum number of seizures have been reported from Mandala, Jabbalpur and Seoni in Madhya Pradesh, Calcutta in West Bengal, Agra and nearabout areas of U.P., Chennai in Tamilnadu, Bombay in Maharashtra, and in Delhi.

(e) The steps taken by the Government to protect the Tiger and other wildlife species are given in Statement-IV.

Statement-I

Number of Poaching Cases

Sl.No.	Name of the State	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	18	40	50
2.	*Assam	69	76	34	48
3.	Bihar	-	48	03	NA
4.	Goa	03	01	09	01
5.	Haryana	-	842	533	287
6.	Himacha Pradesh	-	04	06	04
7.	*Kerala	-	164	207	35
8.	Maharashtra	20	108	99	102
9.	Manipur	02	01	01	08
10.	Meghalaya	-	02	05	08
11.	Mizoram	01	07	15	26

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Nagaland	-	-	-	01
13.	Orissa	51	96	103	NA
14.	Punjab	08	369	368	247
15.	Tamil Nadu	-	23	30	21
16.	Rajasthan	52	75	82	107
17.	Sikkim	02	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Tripura	-	01	Nil	01
19.	*Uttar Pradesh	32	788	583	255
20.	West Bengal	39	07	05	06
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	01	-	01
22.	Karnataka	-	42	38	35
23.	Madhya Pradesh	35	257	280	297
24.	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
25.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Daman and Diu	-	Nil	Nil	Nil
27.	*Delhi	-	20	33	61
28.	Pondicherry	-	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Gujarat	15	28	6	Nil
	Total	329	2378	2480	1604

*As per calendar year.

Statement-II

Sl.No.	Items Seized	1994-95	1995-96
1	2	3	4
1.	Tiger Skin/with Mounted Head Articles	23	05
2.	Tiger Nail	-	290 Nos.
3.	Tiger Bone	-	10 Kg.
4.	Leopard Skin/Skull	29	07
5.	Leopard Bone	-	04 Kg.
6.	Black Buck Skin	-	21
7.	Black Buck Horn	-	02 Pair
8.	Lizard Skin (Stuffed)/Articles	896	01
9.	Crocodile Skin (Stuffed)/Articles	010	04
10.	Gharial Skin	-	01
11.	Squirrel Skin	-	02
12.	Hide of Elk Deer	-	01

1	2	3	4
13.	Zebra Skin (Finished)	-	01
14.	Fur Skin Articles	03	2016 Kg.
15.	Wild Animal Skin	-	252 Kg.
16.	Ivory Tusk/Articles	08	898 Pcs. 13.4 kg
17.	Wild Animal Horn	01	03 Pair
18.	Dear Antelor/Articles Made The Refrom	-	26046 Nos. 511.7 Kg.
19.	Rhino Horn	-	01
20.	Mongoose Hair Articles	2398 Pcs.	17.15 Kg.
21.	Preserved/Dead Butterflies		197 Kg + 70 Pcs.
22.	Peacock Tail Feather/Handicrafts		6581 Pcs+21.140 Kg.
23.	Porcupine Quills		8100 Pcs+250 Gms.
24.	Wild Bird Feathers		7.395 Kg.
25.	Turtle Carapace		01 No.
26.	Shawl Made of Woal Derived From Telbetan Antelope		172 Nos.
27.	Others Skins/Articles	405	-
28.	Leopard Cat Skin/with Head/Articles	89	-
29.	Fishing Cat Skin/Articles	02	-
30.	Cheetal Skin/Articles	14	-
31.	Lynx Skin Articles	01	-
32.	Fox Skin Articles	06	-
33.	Jungle Cat Skin/Mounted/Articles	61	-
34.	Red Fox Skin/Articles	23	-
35.	Stone Marten Skin Articels	02	-
36.	Desert Cat Skin/Articles	321	-
37.	Snow Leopard Skin/Articles	04	-
38.	Jackal Skin Articles	17	-
39.	Desert Fox Skin	796	-
40.	Rabbit Sur Coller	26	-
41.	Ibex uncured Skin	01	-
42.	Monitor Lizard Skin	170	-
43.	For Leather Strip of Jackal & Fox	443 Pcs.	-

Statement-III

Number of Offence Cases

Sl.No.	Name of the State	YEARS			
		1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95
1.	Andhra Pradesh	120	188	154	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	001	007	Nil
3.	Assam	059	101	050	004
4.	Bihar	020	015	007	003
5.	Goa	004	007	002	010
6.	Gujarat	069	054	039	Nil
7.	Haryana	1027	847	712	Nil
8.	Himachal Pradesh	007	007	001	Nil
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	NA
10.	Karnataka	023	026	011	Nil
11.	Kerala	071	059	063	Nil
12.	Madhya Pradesh	313	401	331	Nil
13.	Maharashtra	152	249	222	Nil
14.	Manipur	Nil	002	001	001
15.	Meghalaya	Nil	002	001	Nil
16.	Mizoram	Nil	002	001	005
17.	Nagaland	019	001	005	Nil
18.	Orissa	182	257	133	Nil
19.	Punjab	382	350	369	013
20.	Rajasthan	100	087	111	Nil
21.	Sikkim	NA	002	NA	NA
22.	Tamilnadu	020	050	049	002
23.	Tripura	001	003	001	Nil
24.	Uttar Pradesh	765	798	788	Nil
25.	West Bengal	085	093	166	Nil
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	140	090	150	Nil
27.	Chandigarh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
28.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Daman & Diu	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
30.	Delhi	025	027	018	Nil
31.	Lakhadweep	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
32.	Pondicherry	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Total	3584	3719	3392	039

Statement-IV

1. Implementation of recommendation of Subramaniam Committee report on issue of prevention of poaching and trade in wildlife during IX Five Year Plan.

2. Training and Workshops of various enforcement agencies for effective intelligence gathering and law enforcement.

3. Setting up of a national Coordination Committee to control poaching and illegal trade in wildlife with enforcement agencies like Customs, Revenu Intelligence, Indo-Tibbetan Border Police, Border Security Force, Central Reserve Police Force, Coast Guards, State Police, Deputy Director, Wildlife Preservation & Scientific Organisations like Zoological and Botenical Survey of India.

4. To control transboundary trade, a protocol has been signed with People's Republic of China and a MOU with his Majesty's Governments of Nepal.

5. Initiated creation of a Forum of Tiger Range Countries, i.e. Global Tiger Forum for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.

6. Launching of public awareness programme to involve Non-Governmental Organisations and others for supporting the Government in its efforts towards wildlife conservation.

7. Supporting programmes of Institutions and NGOs in exploring tiger trade routes and developing a forensic identification reference Mannual for tiger parts and products.

8. Eco-development programme has been taken up around the protected areas to win over the support of fringe dwellers to the cause of wildlife conservation. Seven Pilot Protected Areas have been chosen to implement intensive eco-development progamme by international support.

Clearance for Installation of Kilns

*537. SHRI PRATAP SINGH SAINI : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the fact that the installation of brick kilns on the cultivable land is spreading pollution;

(b) if so, the loss of total national agriculture production due to installation of kilns on the cultivable land;

(c) if so, the name of the authority which permits installation of the kilns on the cultivable land; and

(d) the action being taken by the Government in this regard and the stsps proposed to be taken to shift these kilns on the land unsuitable for agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes, Sir. The emissions from brick kilns may cause air pollution problems in the adjoining areas.The yields of whsat and rice crops grown in the fields adjacent to brick kilns have been reported to be adversely affected.

(b) No conclusive data on the loss of total national agricultural production due to installation of brick kilns on the cultivable land in the country is available.

(c) The local authorities and other concerned departments permit installation of the brick kilns.

(d) The Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India have issued a notification on April 2, 1996 under Environment (Protection) Act, 1996 prescribing limits of particulate matter emissions and stack height regulations to control pollution from brick kilns.

Central Pollution Control Board has published a Comprehensive Industry Document in May, 1996, suggesting guidelines for location of brick kilns and adoption of pollution control measures for brick kilns.

Prices of Essential Commodities

*538. SHRI RAM NAIK :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL :

Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a trend of sharp increase in the prices of essential commodities such as wheat, rice, sugar, bread, milk, edible oils and various spices since 1994;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and percentage of increase in 1996;

(c) the prices of said commodities from April, 1994 to 1997; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to control the prices of these commodities?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) A statement showing the percentage variation in wholesale price index of essential commodities like wheat, rice, sugar, brsad, milk, edible oils and spcies for April, 1994, 1995, 1996 and 1997 is given in attached